

Beach Ball Multiplier

Activity Goal: To throw the ball to each player in the circle

Academic Standard: Students will identify and multiply whole numbers with no more than 2 digits (5th grade, Number and Operations/Computation/State Assessed).

Materials needed: A multi-colored beach ball with each section numbered

Game Directions:

The players stand in a circle.

The leader says the player's name and throws the ball to him or her.

The player who catches the ball says the number under each hand, or closest to each hand, in a multiplication sentence such as "five groups of three equal ..." or "five times three equals...."

All the players then say the answer together. If they don't agree, they discuss which answer is correct and why they think so.

The player with the ball then says another player's name and throws it to him or her.

The players take turns throwing and catching the ball until everyone has had a turn.

Assessment: Teacher observation of student responses

Review/Remediation: Addition and subtraction of numbers or just identifying the numbers

Enrichment: Use division or express the numbers as a fraction

Other benefits: This is a tactile/kinesthetic activity which promotes team work and positive social skills, as well as organizational skills and following directions. In addition, it is just plain fun!

Lesson taken from Make Math Fun After School, presenter Megan Green, Developmental Studies Center Oakland, California, 2008.